Government of Madras.

Scott. II-27—100,000—21-5-52.

Food and Agriculture (1952) Department.

M SERIES.

G.O. No. 931

931

Dated 15 June 1952.

[Despatch Abstract.]

[illegible] - Foodgrains control [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
ABSTRACT.
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CIVIL SUPPLIES - Foodgrains Control - Policy for 1952 - Revision - Orders passed.

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT.

G.O.Ms.No.931 Dated the 7th June, 1952.
Read the following:-

(i) This Government's (Strictly Confidential) Letter to Government of India, Ministry of Food and Agriculture No.54837-A/51-21 dated 24--5--1952.
(ii) This Government's letter No.54837/A/51-25, dated 30-5-1952 addressed to the Government of India, Ministry of Food.
(iii) Board's D.O.No.95673-CS.U2 dated 5-6-1952.

ORDER:

The Government after giving their most careful and anxious consideration have decided with the approval of the Government of India as follows:-

I. Rice (a) Procurement:.

Intensive procurement which is now in force in the delta areas of the surplus districts of East Godavari, West Godavari Krishna, Guntur, Nellore and Tanjore and in the highly deficit districts of Malabar and Nilgiris will be given up with immediate effect. The levy system of procurement in more or less self sufficient districts of South Arcot, South Kanara, Madhurai, Trichinopoly and Srikakulam will also be given up with immediate effect. Orders rescinding the existing procurement orders will be issued separately.

(b) Rationing.

Statutory rationing will be abolished in all ~~the~~ areas in the State including Madras City and also in the Municipal areas of Malabar and Nilgiris Districts. Informal rationing will be continued in the Hosdrug sub taluk of South Kanara district and in the rural areas of Malabar and the Nilgiris Districts and also extended to the municipal areas of the two latter Districts. Fair price shops will be opened in all the areas where statutory, rationing will now be given up. Informal rationing now existing in some of the municipal areas of the surplus Districts will be abolished and no fair price shops will be opened in those areas. These arrangements will be given effect to from Sunday 15-6-1952. As regards the scale of rice ration, the present scale of ration at 7 ozs. of rice will be continued to be issued through fair price shops on the existing permanent ration cards until further orders so that the consumers may not find any difficulty due to non-availability of stocks in the open market in the immediate future until ~~free~~ market availability is established. Consumers can purchase their requirements from the open market as well as what they choose up to the quantity rationed in fair price shops. No new cards will be issued to new comers and no additions or alterations will be made in the existing cards, with reference to the changes in the family No temporary rations nor special rations nor supplemental rations should be issued. All these categories should look to the open market for their requirements.

All establishments such as hotels, orphanages and hostels etc. will continue to get their supplies from Government stocks upto 5th July. They should be advised to make their own arrangements for supply of their requirements from surplus areas as soon as possible even earlier than 5th July. Government Institutions such as hospitals, & Jails, borstal

schools etc. shall also follow the same procedure. These Government institutions should make arrangements as soon as possible to get supplies on tender of contracts.

The existing arrangements for supplies of foodgrains to industrial population in areas not served by fair price shops will be continued only till the 28th June. It is up to the directors of these industries to open fair price grain shops for their employees after this date.

As regards the minimum number of fair price shops to be maintained in municipal towns, at present 550 cards are attached to each ration shop. The number of cards attached to each shop will be increased to 750. The stocks held by the retailers whose services will be dispensed with consequent on this arrangement will be transferred to other dealers who will continue.

In areas where famine relief measures are now being undertaken fair price shops will continue and they will issue 2 ozs. of rice and 10 ozs. of other grains except in the case of labourers employed in famine works who will be issued 3 ozs. of rice and 13 ozs. of other foodgrains.

All statutory orders relating to rationing including the Madras Guest Control Order, 1954, and the Essential Articles Restricted Acquisition Order, 1947 will be cancelled separately.

(c) Formation of Zones.

With a view to regulate movement of rice from surplus areas to deficit areas the State will be divided into a number of zones with one or two surplus districts supplying in the free market the needs of a few deficit districts included in each zone. Within the zone free private trade will be allowed. There will be no control as regards price or the quantity of rice to be distributed except through fair price shops. Movements from one zone to another by railways or motor vehicles will not be allowed except under permits issued by the Collector, of the district from which transport is proposed. In regard to transport for personal consumption by landholders, permits will be given by the Collectors of the districts from where the transport is proposed and the quantity to be allowed to be transported will be limited to the reasonable equirements of the family as fixed by the Collector of that district. Transport by peasantry of small quantities by headloads or other non-mechanical conveyances shall not be interfered with. The zones will be as follows:-

	Surplus.	Deficit.
Zone 1.	East Godavari	Visakhapatnam, Srikakulam.
Zone 2.	West Godavari Krishna and Nellore.	Madras City, Chingleput. Chittoor, North Arcot and Railways.
Zone 3.	Guntur	Anantapur, Bellary, Cuddapah and Kurnool.
Zone 4.	Tanjore, South Arcot.	Tinnevelli, Ramanadapuram. Madurai, Coimbatore, Salem ans Tiruchirapalli.
Zone 5.	South Kanara.	

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Zone 6. Malabar and Nilgiris:- The requirements of these two districts over and above the quantity available from locally procured stocks will be supplied by imports through Government of India.

The new order regulating movement from one zone to another as indicated above will be issued separately. Till then, the existing inter-district movement control orders should be utilised only for preventing movement from one zone to another. The existing Belt-area notifications will continue. Smuggling from zone to zone should be watched by the local police. The requisition order issued in G.O. Mis.1360, Food, dated 23-12-1947 (as subsequently amended), will however remain in force, for purposes of any emergency.

(d) The existing stocks:

The existing stocks, now with the wholesalers including wholesale procuring agents will be under Government control and utilised for meeting the requirements of the fair price shops in municipal areas. These merchants will not be allowed to handle open market rice. This can be enforced under clause 9 of the Licence, issued under the Madras Food Grains Control Order.

Agreements should also be got executed from these wholesalers with a view to enforce the above conditions. The Board is requested to submit immediately a suitable draft agreement and also a draft of the Order regulating movements from zone to zone for approval of the Government.

(e) The Madras Foodgrains Control Order will be continued for the present. This will be applicable only to the merchants who are holding the stocks on hand on behalf of the Government. The Board is requested to submit suitable amendments to this order.

The Madras Foodgrains Price Control Order1951 will be cancelled. The Madras Rice Mills Licensing Order will be continued till the 2½ lakhs tons now remaining in the surplus districts mostly in the shape of paddy are moved out and also till the buffer of 1½ lakhs tons is built up for next year to meet emergencies. The powers under this order need, however, be invoked mainly to ensure the good quality of the rice produced. There will be no need to continue the restrictions regarding the issue of fresh licences etc., which may be left to be done by the Collectors during the interim period. The notifications relating to milling in as statutory rationed areas in the State will be cancelled.

II. Wheat and Milo.

The distribution and sale of wheat and milo will be completely decontrolled and derationed with immediate effect. The State Government will receive the stocks and distribute them among the wholesalers and co-operative societies selected by theCollector of each district and these wholesalers and co-operative societies will be allowed to deal with these grains and supply them to merchants for distribution to the consumers. Until private wholesalers and co-operative societies handle these stocks on outright purchase system, they will be held on Government accounts whether on agency system or in Government godowns. There will be no control over the sale price of wheat but as regards milo, since the Government of India are subsidising the sale of milo and incur considerable loss, it will be sold at specified prices in order to pass on the benefit of subsidy to the consumers There will be no limit to the quantity of wheat and milo that any consumer can buy. A reserve stock of 25,000 tons of wheat and 30,000 tons of milo will be kept in the State reserves in order to meet emergencies and steps will be taken to replenish these reserve stocks. As regards clearance from ports of wheat and milo hereafter to be received, the existing arrangement

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of clearance by the Government will be continued.

Arrangements for next year:- From the next year onwards a reserve of 1½ lakhs tons of rice will be built up to meet any possible emergencies. This stock will be procured by means of levy from surplus districts. The Board is requested to work out a suitable levy scheme and submit proposals for approval to the Government by the middle of October, 1952.

The Board is requested to take immediate steps to implement the above decisions and to submit five copies of instructions issued to Collectors etc., in this regard. It is also requested to submit necessary draft amendments and notifications for approval by the Government.

Orders on the Board's proposals regarding retrenchment of staff, strengthening of anti-smuggling staff and enhancement of the existing rates of subsidy surcharge and administrative surcharge will be issued separately.

/By Order etc./

R.M. Sundaram,
Secretary to Government.

To

The Board of Revenue (Civil Supplies).
Copy to all Collectors.

/True copy/

R Thiagarajan 8.10.52

SUPERINTENDENT.
MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

SS/5.X.

5.10.52